Indiana Crop & Weather Report

INDIANA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 21

Rains continued to hinder corn and soybean planting along with other field activities last week. Scattered areas received hail along with strong damaging winds, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn planting is more than two weeks ahead of average. Soybean planting is on par with the record pace established in 1987 and 3 weeks ahead of the average.

CORN AND SOYBEANS

Ninety-five percent of the **corn** acreage is planted compared with 96 percent last year and 65 percent for the 5-year average. Corn planted is 4 days behind the record pace established in 1988. By area, corn planting is 96 percent complete in the north, 96 percent complete in the central and 91 percent complete in the south. Seventy-eight percent of the corn crop has **emerged** compared with 66 percent last year. Seventy-six percent of the **soybean** acreage is planted compared with 71 percent last year and 41 percent for average. By area, soybean planting is 80 percent complete in the north, 77 percent complete in the central and 70 percent complete in the south.

WINTER WHEAT

Eighty-eight percent of the winter wheat acreage is **headed** compared with 71 percent last year and 54 percent for the 5-year average. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 79 percent good to excellent, compared with 86 percent at this time a year ago.

OTHER CROPS AND LIVESTOCK

Pasture condition was rated 14 percent excellent, 53 percent good, 23 percent fair, 8 percent poor and 2 percent very poor. Transplanting of tobacco is 13 percent complete. Livestock are in mostly good condition. First cutting of hay crops is underway.

DAYS SUITABLE and SOIL MOISTURE

For the week ending Friday, 3.8 days were rated **suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was rated 1 very short, 6 percent short, 74 percent adequate and 19 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 9 percent very short, 37 percent short, 50 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
	Percent			
Corn Planted	95	86	96	65
Corn Emerged	78	52	66	NA
Soybeans Planted	76	57	71	41
Soybeans Emerged	50	22	35	NA
Winter Wheat Headed	88	57	71	54

CROP CONDITION

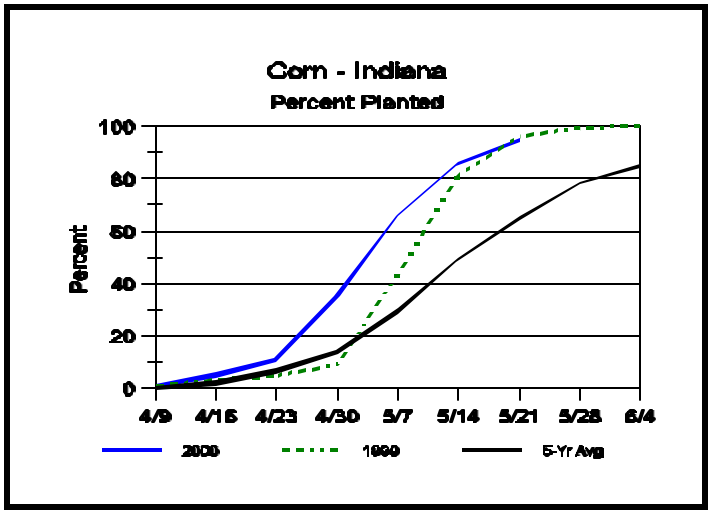
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
	Percent				
Winter Wheat 5/21	0	3	18	54	25
Winter Wheat 5/14	1	4	18	52	25
Winter Wheat 1999	0	1	13	61	25
Pasture	2	8	23	53	14

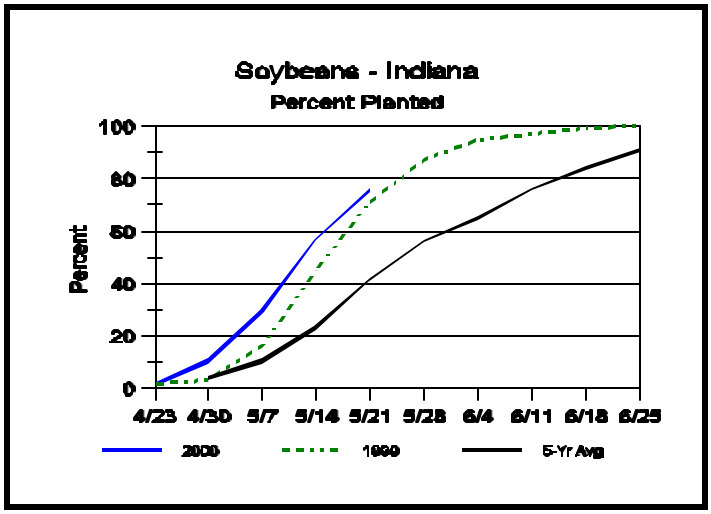
SOIL MOISTURE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	Percent		
Topsoil			
Very Short	1	0	1
Short	6	10	11
Adequate	74	77	78
Surplus	19	13	10
Subsoil			
Very Short	9	12	1
Short	37	36	11
Adequate	50	47	78
Surplus	4	5	10

--Ralph W. Gann, State Statistician
–Andrea Buchanan, Agricultural Statistician
E-Mail Address: nass-in@nass.usda.gov
http://info.aes.purdue.edu/agstat/nass.html

Crop Progress





Fluctuating Weather Conditions May Cause Weed Control Difficulties

- CLIMATIC CONDITIONS IMPACTING HERBICIDE PERFORMANCE
- TIMELY POST-EMERGENCE APPLICATIONS WILL BE CRITICAL THIS YEAR
- CONSIDERATIONS ABOUT HERBICIDE DRIFT

During the last two months, weather conditions in Indiana have fluctuated severely. At the first of the summer, we were expecting drought conditions; now many of us are wanting the rain to let up so we can finish planting. These unpredictable rainfall conditions have been combined with temperatures ranging from over night lows in the mid 20's to daytime highs in the mid 80's. Add to these scenarios the windy conditions and what do you have. . .”unpredictable conditions for weed control.”

These changing weather patterns can and have impacted herbicide performance. Soil applied herbicides sprayed on the early-planted fields may be a concern due to insufficient rainfall for activation. Producers need to closely monitor the weed pressures in those early-planted fields to ensure the soil-applied herbicides were activated. Although weed emergence is not as severe without timely rainfall, some weeds can emerge from below the herbicide treated soil, grow through the treated soil, and compete with the crop. Generally, once these weeds are established, the soil-applied herbicide will not control them. We then must rely on post-emergence herbicides or cultivation for control.

The key then is catching the weeds before they get too big.

Post-emergence herbicide sprays work best when the weeds are experiencing good growing conditions. In the anticipation of drought-like conditions this summer, timely herbicide applications will be essential. Applications should be made when the weeds and the crop are actively growing. Spraying a stressed crop with some herbicides can result in severe crop injury. Likewise, herbicide application to drought stressed weeds can result in poor weed control. So if the summer shapes up to meteorologists’ expectations, stay aware of your weed problems and spray them once the opportunity presents itself.

Luckily, most of Indiana has gotten activating rainfall events over the last few weeks. Fields planted and treated with soil-applied herbicides during this time should have good performance from those herbicides. Unfortunately, a few counties have experienced excessive cool-wet conditions and, as a result, they have experienced crop injury problems due to their soil-applied herbicide program. Generally the injury is short lived and normal growth resumes after a few days of good growing conditions. Usually these herbicides are very safe to the crop, but placing the biochemical systems of plants under stress of cool-wet conditions and the herbicide can have an adverse effect on the most tolerant crop.

(Continued on Page 4.)

Weather Data

Week ending Sunday May 21, 2000

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
		Air Temperature			Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil	April 1, 2000 thru May 21, 2000				
								Precipitation		GDD Base 50°F		
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Valparaiso_Ag	71	40	56	-6	0.76	5		6.56	+0.02	24	293	+6
Wanatah	75	37	55	-5	0.66	5	60	6.50	+0.25	21	290	+44
Wheatfield	79	38	57	-5	0.34	4		7.24	+1.14	21	321	+55
Winamac	75	40	57	-6	0.92	4		6.20	+0.18	16	323	+16
North Central (2)												
Logansport	76	46	58	-5	0.91	4		4.42	-1.58	22	336	+35
Plymouth	78	37	55	-8	0.65	4		6.90	+0.48	22	294	-30
South_Bend	75	40	56	-5	1.57	4		6.98	+1.04	25	315	+46
Young_America	77	42	59	-4	0.58	4		4.24	-1.76	17	397	+96
Northeast (3)												
Bluffton	77	40	58	-5	0.95	3	60	5.53	-0.54	18	357	+43
Fort_Wayne	78	38	57	-5	0.64	3		4.89	-0.80	18	353	+69
West Central (4)												
Crawfordsville	76	39	58	-6	0.48	3	62	4.18	-2.67	19	315	-54
Perrysville	77	41	59	-4	0.67	3	64	5.00	-1.61	17	365	+22
Terre_Haute_Ag	81	41	62	-3	0.33	2	65	5.46	-1.55	18	447	+55
W_Lafayette_6NW	77	40	57	-5	0.72	4	59	3.70	-2.71	19	372	+65
Central (5)												
Castleton	78	42	60	-4	1.53	4		7.84	+0.98	26	397	+35
Greenfield	76	43	60	-4	1.29	4		7.78	+0.74	25	410	+69
Greensburg	76	43	61	-2	0.58	4		8.02	+0.62	24	417	+64
Indianapolis_AP	77	41	61	-4	0.83	4		6.64	+0.21	23	447	+66
Indianapolis_SE	76	41	60	-4	0.37	2		6.28	-0.58	18	396	+34
Tipton_Ag	77	42	58	-3	1.37	4	60	5.22	-1.30	19	328	+54
East Central (6)												
Farmland	79	38	59	-2	1.50	4	57	8.59	+2.49	24	358	+94
New_Castle	76	39	57	-5	1.54	3		7.59	+0.48	23	283	+11
Southwest (7)												
Dubois_Ag	81	42	63	-1	0.17	2	68	6.02	-1.45	22	497	+76
Evansville	85	43	65	-2	0.63	3		3.93	-3.39	19	560	+42
Freelandville	81	47	64	-1	0.21	2		6.01	-1.37	15	462	+46
Shoals	79	42	61	-3	0.61	2		5.83	-1.91	21	430	+27
Vincennes_5NE	83	45	62	-3	0.17	2	64	5.03	-2.35	18	461	+45
South Central (8)												
Bloomington	78	44	61	-4	0.35	3		6.62	-0.61	20	417	+7
Tell_City	82	46	64	-2	0.35	2		6.14	-1.97	17	513	+36
Southeast (9)												
Scottsburg	80	43	64	-1	0.15	2		7.34	+0.08	18	479	+59

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

The above weather information is provided by AWIS, Inc.
For detailed ag weather forecasts and data visit the AWIS home page at
www.awis.com or call toll free at 1-888-798-9955.

As with any year, herbicide drift is a major concern. Some effective ways of alleviating this concern are:

(A) making applications during low wind conditions,
(B) selecting nozzle tips that allow for larger droplets,
(C) decreasing your spray pressure, and
(D) using drift control agents.

Although these practices are easily discussed, they are not always easy to implement. One thing you can control without much hassle is the time of day certain fields are treated. Treat fields bordering other crops and fields near urban areas early in the morning before the wind picks up. Any step toward reducing drift will be appreciated by your neighbors and by your pocketbook.

– Case R. Medlin, Purdue University

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